III. *An Extract of Two Letters from the Miſſionary Jeſuits, concerning the Diſcovery of the New* Philippine-*Iſlands, with a Map of the ſame.*

LETTER I.

From Father Paul Clain *of the Society of* Jeſus, *to the Reverend Father* Thyrſis Gonzalez, *General of that Society.*

Manila, June 10, 1697.

AFTER the Ship had ſailed, that carried the Letters I writ to you laſt Year, moſt Reverend Father; there arrived here another, that brought me Orders to accompany the Reverend Father *Antonio Fuccio* of *Sicily*, our new Provincial of this Country. In viſiting with him our Religious Houſes, I travelled over the Country of the *Pintados*; which are large Iſlands ſeparated from one another by Arms of the Sea, whoſe Ebbing and Flowing renders their Navigation very difficult and dangerous.

At the Town of *Guivam* in the Iſle of *Samal*, the laſt and moſt Southern Iſland of the Eaſtern *Pintados*, we found twenty nine *Palaos*, or Inhabitants of certain new-diſcover'd Iſlands. The Eaſterly Winds, that blow on theſe Seas from *December* to *May*, had driven them three hundred Leagues from their own Iſlands, to this Town of the Iſle of *Samal*, where they arrived in two ſmall Veſſels, called *Paraos*: Of which we received this following Account.

They imbarked, to the number of thirty five Perſons, to paſs over to one of the Neighbouring Iſlands; when there aroſe a very ſtrong Wind, that forced them out into the Main Sea, ſo that they could not gain the Iſland they deſign'd for, nor any of the Neighbouring ones. After having made ſeveral Attempts to get aſhore on ſome Iſland within their knowledge, but in vain, they were driven before the Wind for ſeventy days together, without being able to make any Land. At laſt, out of all hopes of returning to their own Country, and half dead for want of Water and Proviſions, they reſolved to give themſelves up to the mercy of the Winds, and Land at the firſt Iſland Weſterly that they ſhould come to. They had no ſooner taken this Reſolution, but they found themſelves in ſight of the Town of *Guivam* in the Iſle of *Samal*. A *Guivamois* that was then on ſhoar, perceiving them, and judging by the Make and Smallneſs of their Veſſels, that they were Strangers, and out of their way, took a piece of Cloath, and made them a Signal of entering the Road he directed, to avoid the Shoals and Banks of Sand, they would otherwiſe run upon. Theſe poor People were ſo frighted at the ſight of this Stranger, that they began to put out again to Sea; but notwithſtanding all their Endeavours, the Wind forced them back a ſecond time towards the Shoar. When they were near, the *Guivamois* again made the Signal as before; but ſeeing they did not mind it, but would unavoidably be loſt, he threw himſelf into the Sea, and ſwam to one of their little Veſſels, on purpoſe, to bring them ſafe in to ſhoar. He was no ſooner got to them, but the Women with their Children at their Backs, and all that were in the Veſſel, threw themſelves over-board and ſwam to the other: He, ſeeing himſelf alone in the Veſſel, reſolved to follow them, and getting aboard the ſecond, ſhew'd them how to avoid the ſhoals,

and

and brought them ſafe to Land. In the mean time they ſtood immoveable, and reſign'd themſelves up intirely to the Conduct of this Stranger, as ſo many Priſoners.

They landed on St. *Innocent's* Day, the 28th of *December* 1696. The Inhabitants of *Guivam*, running to the Shoar, received them very kindly, and brought them Wine and other Refreſhments. They eat Coco's very freely, which are the Fruit of the Palm-Trees of this Country: The Pulp of them is ſomewhat like that of Cheſnuts, except that it is more oily, and furniſhes them with a ſort of ſweet Water, very pleaſant to drink. They gave them Rice boyled in Water, which is eat here and all over *Aſia*, as Bread is in *Europe*. They looked on it with Surprize; and taking ſome Grains of it, threw it on the Ground, imagining it to be Worms. They rejoyce if one brings them great Roots, call'd *Palavan*, which they eat greedily.

In the mean time they brought to them two Women, that had formerly been driven on ſhoar on the Coaſt of *Guivam*; who knowing a little the Language of this Country, it was by their means they learnt what I ſhall hereafter relate. One of theſe Women found among thoſe Strangers, one of her Relations, who as ſoon as they knew one another, fell a weeping. The Father, who has on him the Care of this Town, having heard of the Arrival of theſe People, ſent for them to *Guivam*. As ſoon as they ſaw him, and what Reſpect was paid him, imagining that he was the King of the Country, and that their Lives were in his Hands, they threw themſelves on the Ground, to ask his Pardon, and beg their Lives. The Father moved with pity to ſee them ſo diſconſolate, did all he could to comfort them; he careſſed their Children, three of which ſtill ſuck'd, and five others were ſomewhat older; and promiſed their Parents to give them all the aſſiſtance in his Power.

The Inhabitants of *Guivam* ſtrove one with another, who ſhould entertain theſe Strangers at their Houſes, and furniſh them with Proviſions and Cloaths, and whatſoever elſe ſhould be neceſſary; which the Father granted them, on condition they did not ſeparate thoſe that were Married, or take leſs than two of them together, for fear any ſhould die of Grief if left alone. Of thirty five Perſons that imbarked, there remained but thirty; five dying thro' want of Proviſions and other Hardſhips in ſo long a Voyage; and ſome time after their Arrival here, died another.

They relate that their Country conſiſts of two and thirty Iſlands; which cannot be far diſtant from the *Marianas*, as may be judged by the make and ſmallneſs of their Veſſels, and Form of their Sails, which are very like thoſe of the *Mariannois*. It is likely theſe Iſlands may be eleven or twelve Degrees of Northern Latitude, more Southern than the *Marianas*, and under the ſame Degree of Longitude as *Guivam*; for ſailing directly from Eaſt to Weſt, they came aſhore at this Town. It is alſo probable, that it was one of theſe Iſlands that was diſcover'd ſome Years ago at a diſtance, when a Ship belonging to the *Philippines*, leaving the common Road, which is from Eaſt to Weſt under the third Degree of Longitude, and running further to the South Eaſt, firſt perceived it. Some called this Iſland *Carolina*, from *Charles* II. King of *Spain*; and others the Iſland of St. *Barnaby*, becauſe diſcovered on the Day that the Church celebrates the Feaſt of that Apoſtle. It was again ſeen laſt Year, by another Veſſel that a Storm had driven out of its Road, in going from hence to the *Marianas*. The Governor of the *Philippines* has often given Orders to a Veſſel, that goes almoſt yearly to the *Marianas*, to look for this and other Iſlands that they ſuſpected to be hereabouts; but theſe Orders were ineffectual, God preſerving

ſerving to this time the Diſcovery of them, and (as we hope alſo) the intire Converſion of theſe People.

Theſe Strangers add, that of theſe two and thirty Iſlands, there are three of 'em that are uninhabited, unleſs it be with Wild Fowls; but the others are very well Peopled. If one asks them the Number of Inhabitants, they point to a heap of Sand, to ſhew that their Number is infinite. The Names of theſe Iſlands are *Pais*, *Lamulutup*, *Saraon*, *Yaropie*, *Valayyay*, *Sataran*, *Cutat*, *Tfalcu*, *Piraulop*, *Ttai*, *Pic*, *Piga*, *Lamurrec*, *Puc*, *Falait*, *Caravaruvong*, *Tlatu*, *Lamuliur*, *Tavas*, *Saypen*, *Tacaulap*, *Rapiyang*, *Tavon*, *Mutacuſan*, *Piyla*, *Olatan*, *Palu*, *Cucumyat*, *Piyalacunung*. The three that have nothing on them but Wild Fowls, are *Piculat*, *Hulatan*, *Tagian*. *Lamurrec* is the moſt conſiderable of all theſe Iſlands: It is there that the King of the Country keeps his Court; the Governors of all the other Iſlands are ſubject to him. Among theſe Strangers there is one of theſe Governors, and his Wife, who is the King's Daughter. Tho' they go half naked, yet their Carriage, and a peculiar Air of Greatneſs, ſufficiently diſtinguiſhes them from the reſt. The Husband has his Body painted all over with certain Lines, in ſuch manner that they form ſeveral Figures: The reſt of the Men are alſo painted in like manner, more or leſs. The Women and Children are not painted at all. There are nineteen Men of them, and ten Women, of different Ages. The Make and Colour of their Face is much like that of the *Philippinois*. The Men have no other Cloaths, than a ſort of Saſh, ſeveral times wrapt about their Body, that covers their Reins and Thighs. They wear upon their Shoulders above an Ell and half of courſe Linen Cloath, like a Cowl, tied before, and hanging looſe behind. Both Men and Women are dreſſed much alike, except that the Women have a piece of Cloath ſomewhat longer, that hangs from their Waſte down to their Knees.

Their

Their Language is different from that of the *Philippines* and *Marianas*: Their Manner of pronouncing it comes neareſt that of the *Arabs*, as ſome who underſtand that Language have obſerved. The Woman, that ſeems the moſt conſiderable amongſt them, has ſeveral Rings and Necklaces of Tortoiſe-ſhell, (call'd here *Carey*) and others made of a Subſtance yet unknown to us, much reſembling Ambergriſe, but not tranſparent.

The Manner of their living at Sea, which was for ſeventy days together, continually driven by the Wind, was thus: They caſt out a ſort of Net, made of a great number of little Twigs of Trees tied together, having a large Mouth for the Fiſh to enter in at, and ending in a Point to prevent their getting out again. The Fiſh they took after this manner, was all the Nouriſhment they had, and Rain-water ſaved in Coco-ſhells, which is the Fruit of the Palm-tree (as obſerved before) of the Figure and Size of a Human Scull.

They have no Cows in their Iſlands: As ſoon as they ſaw them, they ran away, as they did likewiſe at the Barking of a Dog, in one of the Miſſionaries Houſes. Neither have they Cats, Stags, Horſes, or in general any Quadruped. Nor any Fowls but Sea-Fowls; excepting Hens, which they breed up, but never eat their Eggs.

Notwithſtanding this their want of every thing, they are very merry and contented with their Condition. Their Songs and Dances are exact and regular: When they Sing, it is altogether, every one obſerving the ſame Humour and Geſtures, which makes it very agreeable.

They are ſurprized at the Government, Politeneſs, and Manners of the *Europeans*, of whom they had not the leaſt knowledge. They admire not only the Solemnities and Ceremonies of the Church in celebrating Divine Service; but alſo the Muſick, Inſtruments, Dances

of

of the *Spaniards*, and their Arms; but Gunpowder is what raiſes in them the greateſt Admiration. They wonder at the Whiteneſs of the *Europeans*, in reſpect of whom they are perfectly Tawny, as well as the Inhabitants of this Country.

It does not yet appear, that they have either any Knowledge of a Deity, or that they worſhip Idols. Their Life is perfectly Savage, taking care of nothing but Eating and Drinking, in which they obſerve no ſet time, but eat and drink at any time time or place, when hungry or thirſty, or they can find any thing to ſatisfy themſelves; yet they eat but little at a time, and never enough to ſuffice for a whole day. They ſhew a great Reſpect and Deference for their King, and Governors of their Towns, and obey them very preciſely.

Their Civility and Reſpect conſiſts in taking hold of the Hand or Foot of the Perſon they honour, and rubbing gently his Face. They have among their Utenſils ſome Saws, not made of Iron, but of a large Shell, called here *Taclobo*, rubbed and ſharpen'd upon a certain kind of Stone. They were ſurprized at a Merchant Ship that was building at *Guivam*, to ſee the number of Carpenters Tools that were uſed about it: They viewed them all, one after another, with a great deal of admiration. They have no Metals in their Country. The Father Miſſionary made each of them a Preſent of a large Piece of Iron, which they received with as much Joy, as if it had been ſo much Gold; and are ſo afraid it ſhould be ſtole from them, that they lay it under their Heads when they go to ſleep. They have no other Arms but Lances or Darts, made of Human Bones very well ſharpen'd and fix'd on. They are very peaceful of themſelves; but if any Quarrel happens among them, it is decided with ſome Blows on the Head with the Fiſt, which yet very rarely happens; for when they would come to a cloſe Fight, they ſeparate them, and they are ſoon reconciled

ciled again. They are not dull and heavy, but on the contrary, have a great deal of Livelineſs and Courage. They are not ſo luſty as the Inhabitants of the *Marianas*, but nevertheleſs are well proportioned, and of a Shape much like thoſe of the *Philippines*. Both Men and Women let their Hair grow long, and hang looſe on their Shoulders.

When they underſtood they were to be conducted to the Preſence of the Father Miſſionary, they painted their Bodies all over with a Yellow Colour, which is look'd upon by them as a great Beauty. They are ſo well ſatisfied with finding here plenty of of every thing that is neceſſary for Life, that they offer'd to return home, and bring with them their Countrymen to enter into a Commerce with theſe Iſlands: Which deſign our Governor liked very well, in hopes thereby to gain this Country to the King of *Spain*. The Oldeſt of theſe Strangers was once before caſt on the Coaſt of *Caragan*, in one of our Iſlands; but finding there none but Infidels, that lived in the Mountains and Deſarts, he returned home again, without knowing any thing of the Plenty and Riches of theſe Iſlands. They are very expert at Diving; and they ſay, they lately, in Fiſhing, took two large Pearls in their Shells, but threw them into the Sea again, not knowing the Value of them.

LETTER II.

From Father Le Gobien, *to the Jeſuites of* France.

Reverend Fathers,

I Here ſend you, as I promiſed, a Map of the new *Philippines*; which is one of the moſt Extraordinary Diſcoveries that has been made in theſe laſt Ages. It is ſtrange that theſe Iſlands, being ſituate between the *Mo-*

luccos,

lucco's, the old *Philippines*, and the *Marianas*, which have been known near theſe two hundred Years, ſhould remain undiſcover'd 'till now. They are eighty ſeven in number, and make one of the fineſt *Archipelago*'s in the Eaſt; being incloſed on the North and South between the Line and the Tropick of *Cancer*, and on the Eaſt and Weſt between the *Marianas* and *Philippines*.

I ſhall not detain you here, in relating the Largeneſs of theſe New Iſlands, their Diſtances one from another, or their Order and Situation; all which may be eaſily ſeen in the Map.

It has elſewhere been ſhown how this New Country came firſt to be diſcover'd, [*viz.* in the former Letter;] ſo that I ſhall only relate here, what ought to be rectified therein, according to our laſt Advices received from thence.

The Map I here ſend you, was not made by *Europeans*, for none have yet been upon theſe Iſlands, but by the Iſlanders themſelves, after this manner. Some of the moſt skilful of 'em ranged upon a Table as many little Stones as there are Iſlands belonging to their Country; and marked out, as well as they could, the Name of each, its Extent and Diſtance from the others: And this is the Map, thus traced out by the *Indians*, that is here ingraved. Not that I can warrant the exactneſs of it, not doubting, but that when our Miſſionaries ſhall have travell'd over theſe Iſlands, and got a more perfect Knowledge of them, there will be found a great many things in it that will need Correction.

The Natives of theſe Iſlands never offer any Violence to one another: Murder and Homicide are unknown to them; and they have a Proverb among them, That *one Man never kills another*. It is probable theſe Iſlands may abound in Gold, Amber and Drugs; being ſituate nearly under the ſame Degree of Longitude as the *Mo-*

Lucco's, from whence we have Nutmegs, and other valuable Spices.

Tho' theſe People ſeem barbarous to us, yet they have among themſelves a ſort of Politeneſs and regular Government. Every Iſland obeys its Chief, who himſelf is ſubject to the King of the Country. This Prince holds his Court in the Iſland of *Falu*, called likewiſe *Lamuirec*; which multiplicity of Names ſeems to be the reaſon why we cannot find in this Map ſcarce any of the Names mentioned in Father *Clain*'s Letter; or perhaps becauſe at firſt from the Natives pronunciation of the Names of their Iſlands, they were written by the *Spaniards* after a different manner from what they are at preſent.

Tho' theſe Iſlands were never heard of in *Europe*, 'till within theſe five or ſix Years, yet 'tis a long time ſince, from the High Mountains of *Samal* they have diſcover'd thick Smoaks on that Coaſt; which commonly happens in Summer time, when theſe Iſlanders ſet fire to their Woods and Foreſts to clear up the Ground. Theſe Smoaks, which the Fiſhermen of *Mindanao* and other Iſlands, have alſo obſerved when far out at Sea, have made them conjecture, that there was Land Eaſt of the *Philippines*; but they never had any certain knowledge of it, till ſome time before the abovementioned Arrival of theſe Iſlanders at *Samal*: Which happened thus.

The King's Brother of theſe new *Philippines*, in a Sea Voyage, was driven on the Coaſt of *Caragan*, in the great Iſland of *Mindanao*. The *Spaniſh* Fathers, who have a very fine Miſſion there, received this Prince with a great deal of Honour and Friendſhip, and inſtructed him in the *Chriſtian* Religion; which he was ſo well pleas'd with, that he never thought of returning again to his own Country. In the mean time the King, diſſatisfy'd at the Loſs of his Brother, fitted out a Fleet of an hundred ſmall Veſſels, which he ſent to every Iſland

under

under his Dominion, to ſee if they could learn any News of him. One of theſe little Veſſels was forced by a Storm on the Coaſt of *Caragan*, at the ſame place as the King's Brother was before. Where landing, they immediately knew him, and with Tears told him the occaſion of their Journey, the Diſcontent of the King his Brother, and deſired him to return back with them. The Prince thanked them for the trouble they had been at, and deſired them to ſatisfy the King, that he was well and contented, but could not, by any means, be perſwaded to return home again.

Explanation of the Map.

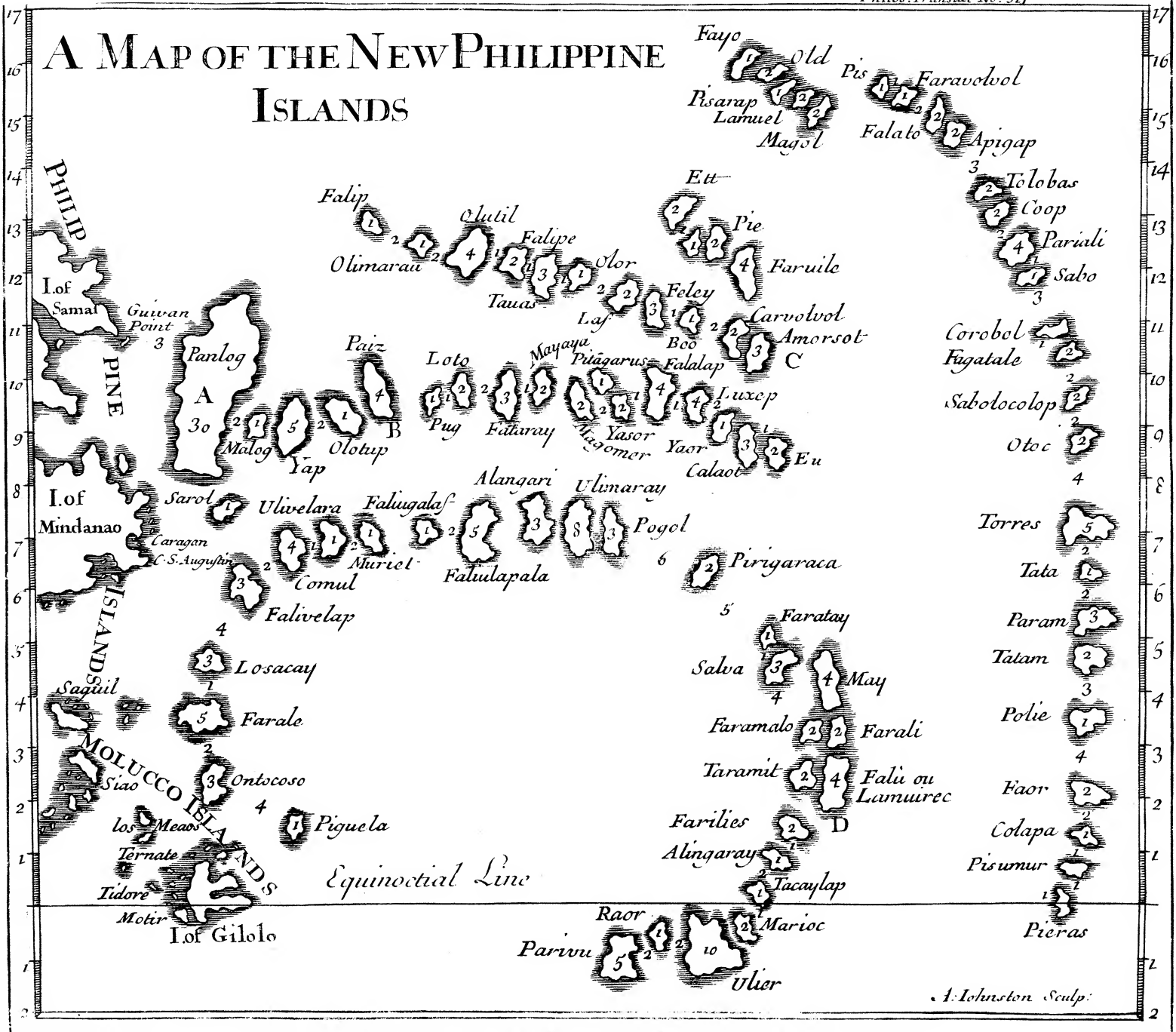
The Figure in the midſt of every Iſland, ſhows how many days ſail it is in Circumference.

The Figure between each Iſland, ſhews how many days are required to paſs from one to the other.

As for Inſtance. *The Figure* 30, *in the Iſle of* Panlog, *ſhews that it is* 30 *days in Circumference; and the Figure* 3, *between the Cape of* Guivam *and the Iſle of* Panlog, *ſhews, that it is three days paſſage to it.*

The Indians, *who were the occaſion of thoſe Iſlands being diſcovered, imbarked in the Iſland* Amorſot, *marked in the Map by the Letter* C, *with a deſign to paſs to the Iſle of* Paiz, *marked by the Letter* B; *but were driven by a Storm out to Sea, and after* 70 *days Sail, caſt on the Cape of* Guivam *in the Iſland of* Samal, *called by the* Spaniards, Ibabao.

A, *the largeſt of theſe Iſlands, named* Panlog.

D, *the Iſle of* Falu, *or* Lamuirec, *where the King holds his Court.*

A Map of the New Philippine Islands